

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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R 191625Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9674

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 1139

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, CS, VZ

SUBJECT: SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO COSTA RICA TO
BECOME AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA

REF: CARACAS 2769

1. SAN JOSE PRESS OF MARCH 14 REPORTED THAT VLADIMIR KASIMIROV, AMBASSADOR OF THE USSR TO COSTA RICA SINCE 1971, HAS BEEN NAMED AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHEN HE WILL LEAVE COSTA RICA OR WHO HIS REPLACEMENT WILL BE HERE.
 2. KASIMIROV WAS BORN AUGUST 12, 1929, IN MOSCOW, AND IS MARRIED WITH TWO CHILDREN. HIS FAMILY IS CURRENTLY NOT WITH HIM IN COSTA RICA. HE HAS SERVED IN BUDAPEST (1954-61) AND RIO DE JANEIRO (1963-66). HE WAS NAMED AMBASSADOR TO COSTA RICA IN JUNE 1971, BUT DID NOT ARRIVE UNTIL JANUARY 1972. HE IS FLUENT IN SPANISH.
 3. KASIMIROV IS HIGHLY REGARDED BY GOCR LEADERS. HE MAINTAINED A CALCULATED, NON-CONTROVERSIAL, LOW PROFILE DURING HIS FIRST TWO YEARS AS AMBASSADOR, TWO YEARS WHEN THE PRESENCE OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY WAS UNDER HEAVY ATTACK FROM THE MORE CONSERVATIVE
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SECTORS OF THE SOCIETY. AFTER THE PLN VICTORY IN

THE 1974 ELECTIONS AND THE THREAT TO THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF THE EMBASSY PASSED (OPPOSITION CANDIDATES HAD CAMPAIGNED AGAINST THE EMBASSY), KASIMIROV BEGAN TO RAISE HIS EMBASSY'S PROFILE THROUGH A VARIETY OF SOVIET CULTURAL EVENTS AND INTERCHANGES.

4. KASIMIROV HAD GONE OUT OF HIS WAY TO BE FRIENDLY TO THE PREVIOUS U.S. AMBASSADOR AND HE SPOKE OFTEN AND POSITIVELY OF THE IMPROVED WORLD CONDITION SINCE DETENTE. HE PERMITTED CLOSE CONTACT BETWEEN HIS EMBASSY AND THE U.S. EMBASSY. KASIMIROV GAVE A DESPEDIDA DINNER FOR FORMER AMBASSADOR TO COSTA RICA VAKY. KASIMIROV IS PUNCTILIOUS ABOUT MEETING PROTOCOL REQUIREMENTS, BUT IS ALSO AN INTERESTED AND ASTUTE POLITICAL OBSERVER WHO CAN BE EXPECTED TO DEVELOP A WIDE RANGE OF CONTACTS IN THE SOCIETY. HE HAS SPENT A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF HIS TIME AWAY FROM COSTA RICA. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER FOR PERSONAL OR PROFESSIONAL REASONS. CARACAS IS OBVIOUSLY A PROMOTION FOR KASIMIROV BASED ON WHAT THE SOVIETS MUST HAVE REGARDED AS A JOB WELL DONE IN COSTA RICA.

5. A KEY SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICIAL TOLD THE EMBASSY THAT AMBASSADOR KASIMIROV WILL BE LEAVING SAN JOSE FOR CARACAS IN ABOUT THREE WEEKS.
TODMAN

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Message Attributes

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